The South 40

Watch for fall armyworm

By JAMES A. SMITH
Extension Agent

The fall armyworm continues to feed heavily on late planted corn and grain sorghum. If you've planted late crops, better check them carefully, and this applies to garden corn, also.

The best control will be achieved using either Furadan or Dyfonate granules--broadcast with a cyclone seeder, mounted behind the tractor or aerial application.

Home gardeners should direct Dipel (3 tablespoons per gallon of water) into the whorle of the corn. Dipel works slowly.

I was in stands of late corn last week with 100 percent infestation. The fall armyworm grows fast and will seriously reduce yield if he isn't brought under control.

We've visited a number of blue mold false alarms in the past ten day. We generally find that the problem is weather fleck or ozone injury. It's believed that this is the result of air pollution. There is on control or treatment of this problem.

34 percent of the '84 Virginia wheat crop was Tyler. In second place was Coker 747 for 16 percent of the volume.

In 1979 Arthur 71 was planted on 52 percent of the acreage; in '84 this variety accounted for only 9 percent of the crop.

A similar look at Barley shows Boone on 34 percent of the acreage, while Barsoy had 20 percent and Maury with 16 percent of the crop.

The Virginia Crop Reporting Service has just released revised cow population by counties. Appomattox had 20,100 in '82, 18,000 in '83 and 22,000 in '84. This is cows and calves. There were 1,400 dairy cows and heifers that have calved in the total number.

It's time to seed alfalfa. There are a number of reasons for going to a no-til seeding with the most important to reduce soil loss. There's also good research to show that alfalfa seeded no-til will survive a late seeding better.

There can be problems with no-til seedings: Insects, for this reason we reccommend the use of Furadan granules in the seedbox. If the seeding is made in a field where legumes were growing (old pasture or hay land), there is a better chance of having a disease problem--especially sclerotinia crown and root rot. I would urge you to break-up the rotation and seed small grain after the hay or pasture crop--putting in alfalfa in this location a year later.

Remember--pH is very important in alfalfa establishment. Use your soil testing service.

I've been in several soybean fields and found Rhizoctonia. It causes a stem canker and root rot. This disease can be controlled or at least minimized by treating the seed with Vitavax-M Flowable fungicide directly in the planter box but preferably in a slurry seed treater.

This disease is aggravated by the kind of weather that we've experienced for the past six weeks.

There is no control once this disease is in place.

It will be time to seed small grains before you know it. I would encourage you to get a sample of seed in for a germination test very soon to avoid the rush.

Put the seed in a paper bag, not a plastic bag. It takes 1-1/2 lbs. of wheat, barley or oats and 1/2 lb. of Red Clover, tall fescue and orchardgrass.

We'll be glad to help you get your seed tested.

Market report

Auction: Amherst Livestock Market 8-9-84

STEERS	M & L 1	S-1 & M&L-2
300-500 lbs.	$[illegible]-$63.25	$55.00-$57.00
500-700 lbs.	$56.00-$61.25	$51.00-$54.00
700-1000 lbs.	$54.00-$57.75	$47.00-$52.00
900-1100 lb. Hol.	$54.00-$57.75 $42.75	

FEEDER BULLS		
300-500 lbs.	$56.00-$63.00	$50.00-$55.00
500-700 lbs.	$48.00-$53.00	$44.00-$47.00
700-1000 lbs.		$42.00-$43.75

HEIFER		
300-500 lbs.	$[illegible]-$53.00	$44.00-$47.00
500-700 lbs.	$47.00-$51.00	$42.00-$45.00
700-800 lbs.	$44.00-$49.25	$39.00-$43.00

STOCK COWS

Beef $380.00-$425.00

SLAUGHTER COWS

Utility & Commercial 2-4..........$38.00-$41.50
Canner & Cutters 1-3..........$34.00-$37.00
Slaughter Bulls 1 & 2..........$43.75-$46.75

HOGS

US 1-3, 200-240 lbs..........$51.75
Sows, 1-3..........$46.50

Veal

Good..........$54.00-$58.25

SLAUGHTER CALVES

Good and choice..........$48.00-$54.25

State graded Cattle Sale Holstein and Beef Sts. and HF Aug. 28. Sale time 7:00 p.m.

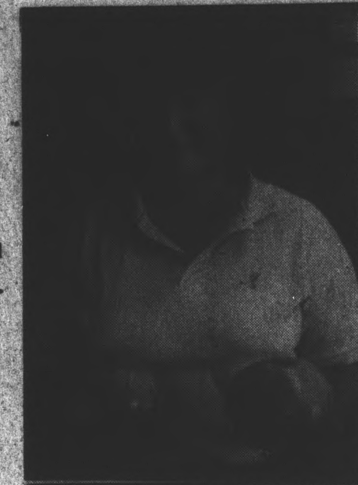
Funding released

A bill signed by President Reagan July 2 enhances the use of funds for the single-family housing program operated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farmers Home Administration, Roie M. Godsey, FmHA state director, said today. No additional funds are involved.

The new law clears up the division of loan funds that must be allotted to "very" low-income applicants and to those in the next higher bracket, low-income.

"The earlier congressional requirement that FmHA housing loans must be made so that 40 percent were constantly going to very-low-income people has been replaced so that now up to 40 percent of the funds available will be used for very-low-income families," Godsey said. "This means that loan applications from both low

(Continued on page 7)



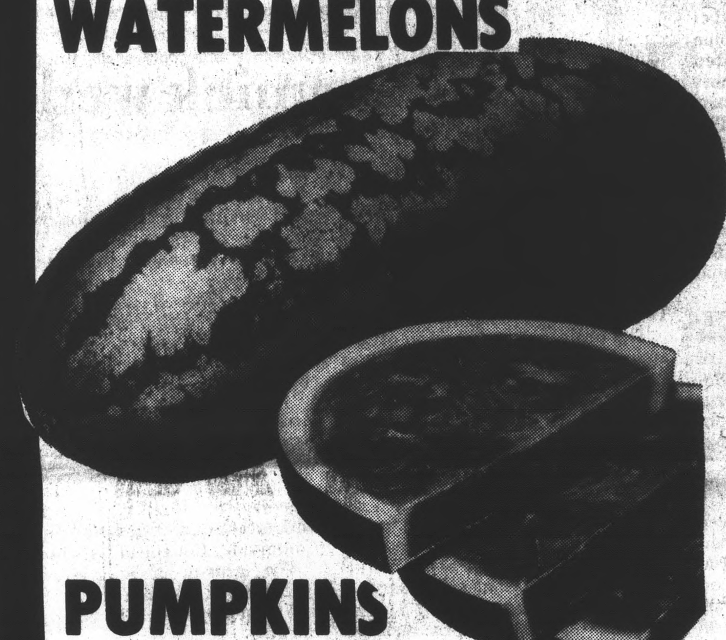
PONDEROSA PINK tomatoes grown by Owen Henderson of Pamplin are big ones. One tomato weighed 2.51 pounds and the other one 2.42 pounds. Henderson and his wife, Peggy, pictured with the huge tomatoes, have 15 Ponderosa Pink tomato vines this year. The tomatoes were grown from seed saved from last year's crop. The seed were sown directly in the garden plot rather than started in pots and later transplanted in the garden. The tomatoes were entered in the Great Appomattox County Gardening Tournament. (Photo by Allen Austin)

Read The Times-Virginian Weekly

"Great Appomattox County GARDENING TOURNAMENT"

$25.00 PRIZE IN FIVE CATEGORIES

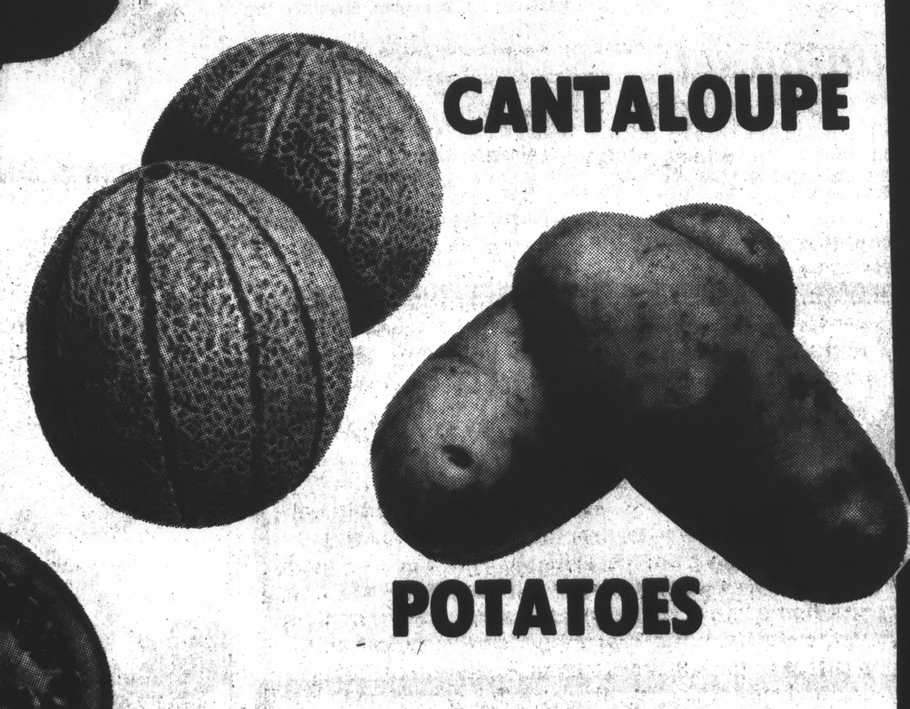
WATERMELONS



PUMPKINS

TOMATOES

CANTALOUPE



POTATOES

CONTEST RULES

From now through Sept. 21, any unusually large potato, tomato, pumpkin, watermelon or cantaloupe may be entered in the Great Appomattox County Gardening Tournament.

To enter, have your produce weighed at a local market with certified produce scales, and have your grocer give you a note certifying the weight of the fruit or vegetable. Only produce grown in Appomattox County is eligible for the tournament.

Have a picture made of yourself and the entry, or come by the Times-Virginian office and we'll make a picture for you.

The contest will close Friday, Sept. 21. Winners in the five categories will be announced in the Sept. 26 issue of the paper.

Winners in each of the five categories will receive a $25. prize.

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ASCS Today

Designation to start Sept. 1

By TOM CONRAD

FIRE TOBACCO WAREHOUSE DESIGNATION TO BEGIN SEPTEMBER 1 - In order to promote a more orderly system of marketing Virginia Dark Fired Tobacco, the Virginia Dark Fired Tobacco Marketing Committee has adopted the following procedures effective beginning with the 1984 crop. Each producer is encouraged to read and study these procedures.

1. Every Virginia dark-fired producer will be required to come to the ASCS office during the period of Sept. 1 to Oct. 15 and by using a Designation of Virginia Dark-Fired Tobacco form, designate the market or markets they wish to sell on. The poundage designated will be determined by adding up the average yield for the previous three years, dividing by three and multiplying by the current acreage planted. In the event of a new grower the county average yield for the previous three years would be used as a basis. If a producer fails to designate during the initial designation period he may still designate until Nov.15, but he cannot commence selling until the third week of sales. Those designating after Nov. 15 will not be alloted sales opportunity until after the Christmas break. Producers not designating will be permitted to sell only on the last week of sales.

2. If a producer during the selling season wishes to redesignate his tobacco, he may do so by going to his designated warehouse Monday through Thursday and filling out a Redesignation of Virginia Dark-Fired Tobacco form. Because of the time element in working up the transfer, a redesignation can not be effective until the week following the week of redesignation or until after the Christmas break, whichever is the earlier.

3. The Designation forms will be available at the ASCS office and we will assist producers in filling them out. Upon completion the forms will be sent to a Central Office on a scheduled basis. At the time of designation or redesignation the producer will be given a copy of the form which he should retain for his records.

4. The designated Central office will receive the forms, separate them by market, and with the aid of market representatives work out sales percentages for each market. It will then be the responsibility of each warehouse to assign sales dates and daily sales allotment to each producer who has designated his market.

5. Each warehouse will keep an up to date record of all producers who have designated with them. The records will show each producer by name, address, farm number and poundage designated to that warehouse. In the event a warehouse sells tobacco for a producer who is not designated to that warehouse prior to the last week of sales that warehouse will be penalized three times the sales commission realized from the unauthorized sale. Records will be audited to determine compliance.

6. Designation only allots poundage to the market based on grower preference. The grower and his designated warehouse will still have to arrange a mutually agreeable sales schedule.

If you have questions, please contact the ASCS office.

E.G. CUNNINGHAM shows a large potato he grew in a garden at the home of Richard and Dorothy Phelps in Appomattox. The potato, which weighed 1.54 pounds, was entered in the Great Appomattox Gardening Tournament, sponsored by the Times-Virginian newspaper.

Insects

Not all bugs in garden are bad

All insects in the home garden are not enemies of the plants or the gardener.

In fact, a surprising number are either predatory, eating a goodly number of the plant pests, or parasites, laying eggs on the bad bugs and destroying them as the eggs hatch and grow.

Most familiar among the predators are the praying mantis, the lady beetle and the green lace-wing. The praying mantis will devour just about anything that comes within its reach. The latter two do the most damage on aphid populations but also help control mites, thrips, and other insects.

Lesser known predators include the mealy bug predator, that, as its name implies, downs mealy bugs with a happy crunch; predatory mites that attack a variety of mites, and predatory nematodes that have soil larvae and grubs as their targets.

According to John Luna, a Virginia Tech Extension entomologist, all of these predators have an important role to play in maintaining a natural balance in the garden's insect population. The recent enthusiasm for introducing them in large numbers as a control mechanism may be misplaced, however. Each has limitations as a solution to a pest problem, especially when pest numbers are large or eradication is being attempted.

For example, the lady beetle is collected from hibernating colonies in the Sierras of California. When the beetles are turned loose in the garden their first instinct is to return to California and not in eating your aphids. The praying mantis is almost the opposite. They are relatively stationary during most of their feeding period, waiting for a varied menu to come to them. Consequently, they have little impact on the total garden.

J. H. McCormack of the University of Virginia greenhouses reports that the mealy bug destroyer, as it is fondly called, is effective in keeping the mealy bug population at a tolerable level, once the infestation has been reduced by such other means as insecticide soap.

The best way to gain the maximum benefits from these predatory insects is to maintain an environment that encourages their long-term natural residence in your garden. The primary consideration here is minimizing the use of insecticides as these are as lethal to predators as to pests.

Among parasitic insects, there appears to have been greater success in the use of introduced populations to control a severe pest problem. According to a journal of intergrated pest management, eggs parasites by Trichogramma wasps are being released by aerial treatment in some fields of soybeans in Virginia to control the insect known commonly as the soybean podworm or corn earworm.

These parasitized eggs hatch within minutes after being dropped and the adult wasps begin their search for host egg on which to restart the cycle.

Parasitization rates as high as 90 percent have been reported in West Texas cotton fields. Other Trichogramma species have been used successfully to control cabbage looper, codling moth and tomato horn worm. The white or brown cocoons seen on the back of horn worms in your garden are from one of these wasps and should be left in the garden to mature and attack other pests. With over 3 billion Trichogramma raises in the United States each year, it is offering a significant bio-control method.

In another case of bio-control, Jim Gardener, Prince William County Extension agent, reports that the cereal leaf beetle is being controlled with the aid of a parasite wasp. This wasp injects eggs into cereal leaf beetle larvae. After the wasp eggs hatch, the wasp larvae feed within the beetle larvae, destroying them.

According to a study conducted in 12 states where parasites have become established, the parasitic wasps alone are destroying more than 60 percent of the beetle population in many areas.

These parasite wasps of the cereal leaf beetle are of no danger to people. The wasps have NO stingers, only ovipositors, egg laying organs they use to insert their eggs in the beetle's larvae. They can complete their life cycle only within the cereal leaf beetle.

VTA plans benefit for school

The Virginia Thoroughbred Association (VTA), in cooperation with Maryland's Laurel Race Course, has announced that it will donate half the $5 clubhouse admission fee for the second running of the Virginia Stallion Stakes on October 8 to the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Tech, and its Marion duPont Scott Equine Medical Center at Morven Park in Leesburg for the advancement of equine research.

The VTA has also pledged to donate $5 from every $30 admission ticket for its annual Virginia Day event which will be held simultaneously with the Virginia Stallion Stakes. The Virginia Day ticket includes admission to the Turf Club, an open bar from noon until the end of the seventh race, a buffet luncheon and the Virginia Stallion Stakes, the feature race of the day.

The inaugural running of the Virginia Stallion Stakes, hosted by Laurel Race Course in 1983, was a tremendous success and the 1984 renewal promises to be even better. With 42 two-year-olds still in nomination for the second running, the Virginia Stallion Stakes is becoming a popular opportunity for young Virginia-breds to prove their quality.

Clubhouse admission tickets for the 2nd Virginia Stallion Stakes and the complement of events on the annual Virginia Day ticket can be obtained from the Virginia Thoroughbred Association, 38 Garrett Street, Warrenton, Virginia (22186). They may also be ordered by calling (703) 347-4313.

Clubhouse admission tickets can also be obtained by contacting Jeff Douglas, public affairs officer for the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, at (703) 961-7911.

FmHA releases funds

(Continued from page 6)

and very-low income rural applicants can be processed at the same time without regard to some arbitrary relationship between the two groups."

The new law divides available loan funds into two amounts, up to 40 percent for the very-low-income and the remainder for low-income borrowers.

"That will revive our program substantially," Godsey said. "We will now be able to process applications for both very-low and low-income people."

Very low-income is defined as not more than 50 percent of an area's median income. The low-income ceiling is 80 percent of the same income base.

WEEKLY SPECIALS

Old Milwaukee..........$2.49 6 pk.
Budweiser..........$2.88 6 pk.
Maxx's..........$1.39 6 pk.
National Bo..........$1.49 6 pk.
Coors Bottles..........$2.88 6 pk.
Pepsi 16 oz. (non-returnable)..........$0.39
($2.29 carton)
Pepsi 12 oz. can..........$0.35
($1.99 carton)
R.C. 2 liter bottle..........$0.99
Bic Lighters..........$0.89

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SPECIAL COMMISSIONER'S SALE
PUBLIC AUCTION

By virtue of decree entered by the Circuit Court of Appomattox County, Virginia on the 25th day of July, 1984, in the Chancery cause in the short style of Minnie F. Martin, etc. v. Hattie F. McFadden, etc., the undersigned will offer for sale the house and lot just North of the Town of Appomattox, Virginia, fronting on Route 131 near the junction of Highway 24 owned by Hattie F. McFadden.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25, 1984 AT 10:00 a.m.
ON THE PREMISES

That certain lot or parcel of real estate, with all buildings and improvements thereon, fronting on the East side of Route 131 just across from the Triangle Plaza just North of the Town of Appomattox and near the Dew Drop Inn, and being the home place of Hattie F. McFadden that was conveyed to Hattie F. McFadden by deed recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Appomattox County, Virginia, in Deed Book 50, at page 486. House has five rooms and bath with front and back porches. House in good condition.

TERMS: 10% down payment day of sale payable to the Circuit Court of Appomattox County, Virginia.

Balance to be deposited with the Court upon confirmation of sale by said Court. All offers subject to approval of the aforesaid Court.

NO BOND REQUIRED
BY ORDER OF COURT.

For further information contact:
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WEDNESDAY - CLOSED
FRIDAY - 9:30 - 8:00
SATURDAY - 9:30 - 5:00

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